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Dated: 2/27/04

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- PATENT -

Applicants:

Gerald W. Back et al.

Docket No.:

31844.0700

Serial No.:

09/921,327

Examiner:

David B. Thomas

Filing Date:

August 2, 2001

Art Unit:

3723

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROBE TIP CLEANING AND

**SHAPING PAD** 

## **RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 1 0 2004

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700** 

## Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2003, the period of response for which is hereby extended by one month to February 28, 2004, please consider the following remarks:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.